

Motor Vehicle Collisions in Work Zones

Table 44 shows the collisions that took place in work zones for 1998 through 2001.

Table 44 Collisions in Work Zones: 1998-2001						
	1998	1999	2000	2001	Change 2000-2001	Avg. Change 1998-2000
Work Zone Collisions	149	258	309	256	-17.2%	46.5%
Fatalities	2	1	8	6	-25.0%	325.0%
Serious Injuries	15	16	25	20	-20.0%	31.5%
Visible Injuries	32	45	65	49	-24.6%	42.5%
Possible Injuries	40	94	89	120	34.8%	64.8%
% All Collisions	0.6%	1.0%	1.2%	1.0%	-18.2%	43.8%
Workers Injured	0	0	1	9	100.0%	-50.0%

Prior to 2001, most of the crashes that have taken place in work zones have not involved construction workers. The 9 worker injuries, 2 of which were fatal injuries, in 2001, resulted from a single collision on I-15. Workers on the roadway are especially vulnerable since their attention is focused on the task at hand rather than on the traffic passing by.

Almost 30% of the collisions in work zones in 2001 were single vehicle collisions and 1 of the 4 fatal collisions involved only 1 vehicle. While overturn and other object - not fixed were the predominant most harmful events in single vehicle collisions in work zones, rear end was the predominant most harmful event for multiple vehicle collisions in work zones.

Table 45 shows work zone collisions by road type.

Table 45 Work Zone Collisions by Roadway Type: 2001								
	Fatal		Injury		Property Damage		All Collisions	
Interstate								
Rural	1	25.0%	11	11.3%	9	5.8%	21	8.2%
Urban	1	25.0%	21	21.6%	31	20.0%	53	20.7%
U.S. or State Highway								
Rural	1	25.0%	24	24.7%	48	31.0%	73	28.5%
Urban	1	25.0%	14	14.4%	27	17.4%	42	16.4%
Local								
Rural	0	0.0%	4	4.1%	12	7.7%	16	6.3%
Urban	0	0.0%	23	23.7%	28	18.1%	51	19.9%
Total	4	1.6%	97	37.9%	155	60.5%	256	

Table 46 shows the severity of crashes by transportation district. Transportation district boundaries can be found in Appendix A.

Table 46 Collisions in Work Zones by Transportation District: 2001				
	Fatal Collisions	Injury Collisions	Property Damage Collisions	Total Collisions
District 1	0	13	20	33
District 2	0	7	10	17
District 3	1	45	59	105
District 4	1	18	29	48
District 5	1	6	17	24
District 6	1	8	20	29
Statewide	4	97	155	256

In 2001, the economic cost of collisions in work zones was \$27.1 million dollars. This represents 2% of the total cost of Idaho collisions (as shown in Table 4).